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ADVERTISER

WALTON AND BOWEN

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

THOMAS BARNES FORREST BARNES (1915)

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

WBPL

(1:40-1:50 PM)
TIME

(JUNE 15 1945)
DATE

(FRIDAY)
DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

ANNOUNCER Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

ORCHESTRA QUARTET RANGER SONG

ANNOUNCER:

Among the many causes of forest fires listed by the United States Forest Service there is one that is sometimes fraught with great peril to firefighters and forest officers -- that is electric power lines. On not a few occasions very distressing accidents have happened to fire fighters. Not suspecting the cause of the fires they have run afoul of charged wires. The Forest Service therefore has issued stringent regulations regarding the clearing and maintenance of power line rights of way on the National Forests in order to protect the public, the forest employees, and the forest itself from the fiery menace of the "hot" wires. Every forest ranger whose district is crossed by an electric power line is required to watch carefully the condition of power lines and to strictly enforce the regulations regarding them. On the Pine Cone Ranger District a power line has recently been built by the Broadacres Irrigation Company and Ranger Jim Robbins has had some administrative problems as a result of it. Today we find Rangers Jim Robbins and Jerry Quinn facing a new and serious one. -- Here they are --

JERRY: Good morning Mrs. Robbins. Where's Jim?

BESS: He hasn't come down yet. The storm last night kept him up most of the night --

JERRY: You know I thought I heard it storming last night but I wasn't sure --

JERRY: Jerry Quick you don't mean to say you went through all
 that wind and thunder and lightning.
 (LAUGHING) I'm afraid I did it (there was much of it).
 Why Jim had to get up three different times and fasten
 things down to keep them from blowing away. Oh, I wish
 I could sleep like that.
 JERRY: Have come Jim on. (DOOR OPENS)
 JIM: (SUSPENDING) Well — Guess I overslept this morning. Some
 storm last night — thought it was going to blow everything
 away.
 JERRY: Don't seem to have rained very much —
 JIM: No, that's the trouble — lot of lightning and not much rain.
 Have the lookouts reported yet?
 JERRY: Not yet — Its after seven o'clock too.
 JIM: Suppose you call 'em up while I go wash for breakfast.
 JERRY: All right.
 JIM: (OFF) Tell 'em to keep on their toes today.
 JERRY: You bet! (DOOR SHUTS)
 (PAIDOT - PAUSE - PAIDIN)
 JERRY: Why don't you sit down, Jim? Breakfast is getting cold.
 I'll see what's keeping Jerry — (DOOR OPENS)
 JERRY: Well, it looks like we've got some trouble, Jim —
 JIM: What's the matter?
 JERRY: Bald Peak lines got a heavy shock. I could hardly touch
 the generator on the telephone. Couldn't raise the lookout
 station at all and the Bald Peak lines is so noisy I
 could hardly hear anything Jack said.

JIM: I swear I can't figure out why we get so much trouble on that line. We've never had any trouble on it 'till now. Well --

JERRY: Bill said he thought he had a photo but we can't sure -- it may be fog rising out of the bottom. He'd going to watch it and call us in a few minutes.

BOSS: Oh dear, I hope it is just fog.

JIM: Where is it?

JERRY: Over toward the tunnel camp -- Pass the word please Jim.

JIM: Yeah. Better eat a good breakfast, we're liable to have a busy day today --

BOSS: Here's your coffee, Jim.

JIM: Thanks, Boss.

BOSS: And your's Jerry --

JERRY: Thanks, Mrs. Robinson -- you want me to shoot the trouble on the Bald Peak line, Jim?

JIM: Yeah -- I a'peck Pink is out on it all ready but you'd better work up from this end to meet him -- That is if we don't have to fight first.

BOSS: Oh dear, there goes the telephone -- I just know it's a fire --

JERRY: I'll get it.

JIM: Better stay with your breakfast if it's a fire. (PUSHES SEAT CHAIR - GOES OFF) I'll want you to round up some men.

JERRY: All right. Say, Mrs. Robinson --

BESS: Some more coffee!

JERRY: Yes please and say, if I have to go to a fire will you call Mary and tell her. I promised her I'd drive over to the ranch tonight.

BESS: Yes, I'll phone her -

JIM: (BUSTLING IN) Well, its a fire - Jerry. Call the fire crew - It's up the lake road between Starr's camp and Woody Peak. -- I'll follow you in the pick-up.

BESS: Oh, Jim!

JERRY: I'm on my way - (DOOR SLAMS)

JIM: Well, its goodbye breakfast. Throw something into a Bess, Bess, and I'll take it with me --

(SOUND OF SIREN -- OFF -- COMES UP AND GOES BY)

JIM: Jerry got quick action with the fire truck all right. (GOING OFF) Good-bye Bess --

BESS: Goodbye, Jim - Here's the rest of your breakfast -

JIM: Thanks, Bess. (DOOR SLAMS)

(FADEOUT)

(INTERVAL - MUSIC)

(FADING - ROAR OF FIRE - FLAMES ORACLE)

JERRY: (BREATHLESS, MOVING UP, SHOUTS) Gosh, Bill, she's getting a good start -

BILL: Yeah - come on fellows -

VOICE: Coming -

JERRY: Bring the guys out along here and start your line, Bill -
I'll go round the fire -- Jim will be along pretty quick.
(SHOUTS) Hey, what's the matter with that man! He's
down! - (OTHERS SHOUT)

BILL: What's the matter, Jack -

JERRY: Look out Bill - that wire! - Get away from that wire!
Stand back, you guys - don't touch 'em - here, grab that
shovel - stand back now while I jerk that wire -

VOICES: There - here let me get 'em --

JIM: (COMING UP) What's going on here - what's the matter with
those men?

JERRY: Look out Jim! - There's a hot wire. It knocked 'em down -

JIM: Pick 'em up, men, and get 'em down out o' the smoke. Jerry
put some one to guard that wire. - Hey, Bill -

BILL: Yes, Jim?

JIM: Go down the road. Take my pick-up and drive to camp and
tell 'em to shut off the power line. - Tell Starr to send
some men and bring the doctor back with you - and highball
it --

BILL: (GOING OFF) I sure will, Jim.

(FADEOUT)

(INTERVAL - MUSIC)

(FADEIN)

JIM: Well, Doctor - how are they?

JERRY: (COMING UP) Say, what's the news, how are they?

DOC: Well sir, those boys had a close call but they're going to come out of it all right. One of 'em has a first degree burn on one hand that grasped the wire and of course they're both suffering from shock.

JIM: You think they'll come out of it all right?

DOC: Yes, I took 'em down to the hospital at the Glen where they'll be under observation for a day or two but I don't anticipate any complications.

JIM: That's cheering news to me, doctor.

JERRY: Yes, you bet it is -- It's great! -- When I saw those fellows down on the ground with that charged wire I thought they were done for --

JIM: Well, they probably would have been killed if you hadn't managed to jerk the wire away from them, Jerry.

DOC: Yes that undoubtedly saved their lives -- I think I'll go on back to camp, Mr. Robbins. Just thought I'd stop and let you know how the patients are --

JIM: Thanks very much Doctor -- goodbye --

DOC: (OFF) Goodbye sir.

JERRY: I ran onto Starr up on the Hill Jim. He has his linemen clearing that wire off the power line. He claims the fire must have been set by lightning. -- He says the wire didn't have anything to do with it.

JIM: Well, we know better. -- The fire started where the old telephone wire touched the ground and we know certainly that it was highly charged.

JERRY: Yes I crossed it through the woods to the power line. It lay right across the high tension wires. It started with a dozen fires - every place it touched to ground it started a fire. We're lucky the ground wasn't dry.

JIM: Yes, it was that - the accident laid on us. If it had been real dry we would have set fire all over the country before we got action on it.

JERRY: Well, the boys did good work as good as I tried to turn 'em loose. I didn't know where that charged wire was. It was hard to see in the thick brush.

JIM: What position are you in that telephone line camp then? We haven't authorized anyone to string a wire up here --

JERRY: I've not been figured out yet, Jim. When Steve began clearing the right of way for the power line he built a line from the tunnel camp down here to the power line camp so he could keep in touch with the work.

JIM: He didn't say anything about it to me.

JERRY: So, I spoke to him about it at the time but he said it was just a temporary line - just a small 40-45 wire fastened up on trees.

JIM: Yes but he had no business to put it up without a permit. Why didn't you report it?

JERRY: Well, I s'pose I should've - but he said it was just temporary and he'd take it down when he moved the camp so I didn't think anymore about it.

- JIM: I'm sorry to hear that it's all over.
- JACK: I know, but I'm glad you're all together this afternoon with
Benjamin. You don't, do you, on that day? I don't know about the
-Benjamin. I'm not sure if it's a full moon or not.
- JIM: And the other thing about the day, the day when I was
born, that's right.
- JIM: And the day when I was born, that's right.
- JACK: Well, I was born on the 1st of May. You know, I was born on the
1st of May. I was born on the 1st of May. The 1st of May is the
day when I was born. I was born on the 1st of May. I was born on the
1st of May. I was born on the 1st of May. I was born on the 1st of May.
- JIM: You know, it was a very nice day. I was born on the 1st of May.
- JACK: Yes.
- JIM: That's the day when I was born. I was born on the 1st of May.
- JACK: I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.
- JIM: That's the day when I was born. I was born on the 1st of May.
- JACK: I jumped out about 11:00 this afternoon. That's the day when I
was born. I was born on the 1st of May. I was born on the 1st of May.
- JIM: That's the day when I was born. I was born on the 1st of May.
- JACK: He wouldn't tell me. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.

JIM: He's smart. He can't afford to own that wire now. - Somebody's going to have to pay compensation to those men for their injuries and of course he would like to hand that obligation to Uncle Sam.

JERRY: Yeah, he's trying to cover up allright. Later I tried to get statements from some of the other linemen and they wouldn't say a word.

JIM: Starr had told them to keep their mouths shut, eh?
JERRY: Apparently so. All they would say was -- "I don't know a thing about it, you'll have to ask Mr. Starr."

JIM: Well, we'll have to begin collecting the evidence -
(LOUDER) Now that just goes to show Jerry that we can't afford to do anything in a slipshod way -- If we'd had that telephone wire covered by a permit -

JERRY: Yeah, you're right Jim. - I should have insisted on it. But it seemed like a trivial thing to row about at the time.

JIM: Suppose those men had been killed - it wouldn't look so trivial, eh?

JERRY: Gosh, I know it, Jim.

JIM: Or suppose we have to air this case in court - it won't sound so well for two forest rangers to admit they didn't know there was a loose wire dangling over a high tension power line on their district.

JERRY: (SIGHS) I know - I should have known --

JIM: I'm not trying to rub it in Jerry. I'm just trying to emphasize the fact that on this job we have got to be systematic and thorough. To be conscientious and thorough -- and know that things are done right. Let's go hunt up Starr --

(FADE OUT - MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER:

Yes sir - a forest ranger with one hundred thousand acres of forest land to manage certainly must be capable and thorough if Uncle Sam's National Forests are to be properly protected and used. Next Friday our ranger friends will be with us again. This program is presented by the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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